

REGULAR/PUBLIC MEETING
Of The
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Of
DESCHUTES VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
April 14, 2025

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Deschutes Valley Water District was called to order by Chairman Kathy Marston (KM) at 7:00 P.M. Other commissioners present were Dana Oppenlander (DO), Lee Baggett (LB) and Tom Jaca (TJ). Public present was Shane Bush.

KM asked for public comment. No public comment.

DO moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept as presented. Seconded by LB. Motion carried.

Joel Gehrett (JG) gave the following report:

- Showed board members the new employee lockers and wall mural.
- 2 new hires since the last board meeting.
 - Kelly West-Water Works Operator with 20 years' experience, anticipating being moved into Foreman roll once Kurt Schonneker retires.
 - Autumn Schlechter-new office employee, job shadowing Linda Dupont.
- Interviewing for 1 more laborer position to replace Shawn Chapman who is moving to the GIS position.
- Kurt Schonneker and Shane Bush are retiring the end of May and Linda Dupont is retiring the end of June.
- David White, new employee at Opal Springs, is doing a good job.
- DVWD investment advisor said investments are doing good.
- DVWD is eligible to fund another side account with PERS. Decided against the side account at this time.
- Water lines are being replaced on Cleveland, Commercial, 1st, 2nd and 3rd St. LB asked about rock saw cutting. JG will get another quote.
- Got a check from Special Districts Insurance Services for the Opal Springs Pumphouse claim of \$160,000. The deductible was \$10,000.

KM moved to approve the purchase of the mid-size excavator, Kobelco 140, from Feenaughty, in the amount of \$182,029.38. Seconded by TJ. Motion carried.

JG explained the new contract from Meridian for fish monitoring. DO moved to approve the 1-year scope of work contract from Meridian with a quote of \$69,091.00. Seconded by LB. Motion carried.

JG talked about Special Districts Association of Oregon offering consulting services to help with updating the employee handbook for \$4,000. JG wants to create a committee with employees to help with the handbook process.

JG mentioned that Lee Baggett and Tom Jaca are the only 2 people running for the upcoming board election.

TJ moved to accept the financial statements, pay the Hydro and General Fund bills as presented and approve next month's payroll obligations. Seconded by DO. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 P.M.

Secretary, Dana Oppenlander